

# *"The Secret" Starts On Page 4*

## THE MODERATOR

B R E A C T O R M U S E U M A S S O C I A T I O N



July-September

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Summer 2024

### **From The Control Room**

by **BRMA President Dave Marsh**

Hello again from the Control Room. I continue to be amazed at this incredible organization that has been around now for 33 years and is still going. It has been a joy for me to be able to serve in the role of President for the past 6 months and I look forward to what more there is to learn in the coming months.

As an update to our members and readers, BRMA has completed another major milestone and that is the completion of the document "Saving B Reactor, History of the B Reactor Museum Association and the Struggle for Preservation of B Reactor." This document was a dream of our long-time member Del Ballard who began recording BRMA history way back in the late 1990s and into the mid-2010s. When I joined BRMA in 2020 and began working with Del, he shared several times his passion for publishing the BRMA history document. With the help of Del, and the BRMA Board members since then, we completed and published the document in June 2024. The document will be uploaded to the BRMA website in a PDF format for public reading and also available to purchase a copy at the Xenophile Bibliopole bookstore along with other BRMA, DOE and NPS souvenirs. I am so thankful to Del for his patience with me and his support in completing this task.

BRMA also completed and published our second Annual Report of BRMA activities and that document is posted on the BRMA Website as well for our members and readers to view. That document was a joy to work on and I am grateful to our Board of Directors for their input to the report as

well as input from both the National Park Service and the Department of Energy. I remember suggesting that we produce an annual report early in 2023 to record the progress of the organization in 2022 and received a lukewarm response at first, but after drafting a report and obtaining input from each Board member, the response was very positive, and in my opinion the 2023 report is much better than the 2022 report. Take a look on our website to see what was accomplished last year.

If you remember, earlier this year I wrote an article about visiting Oak Ridge Tennessee last fall and it was published in the Winter 2024 Moderator. In the Spring 2023 Moderator, I provided an article about my misadventures in attempting a visit to Los Alamos, NM, the last of the three Manhattan Project National Historical Park sites for me to visit. Well

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The B Reactor Museum Assn. meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7 PM,  
in a Conference Room at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Dr., Richland.  
Membership Meetings this quarter will be July 8, Aug. 12, and Sept. 9.

# Membership Report

By Bob Carosino, Membership Chair

## CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

# Dupus Boomer — by Dick Donnell

Contributed by Connie Estep

This is a public acknowledgement of the generous cash contributions made to BRMA. The following list covers the period of April through June, 2024: [Eugene](#) Carbaugh and Dolores Stairet.

### NEW MEMBERS

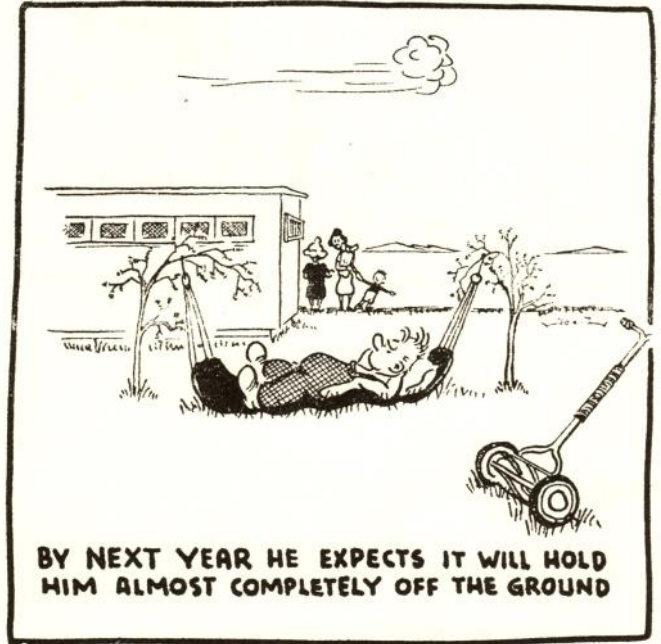
During the second quarter of 2024 BRMA welcomed a large group of new members. They included Daniel Strom, James Golovich, and Sandra Fiskum from West Richland, WA; Doug and Kathy Amos from Pasco, WA; Deanne Osowski, John Swanson, Jeff Voogd, [and Dolores](#) Stairet from Richland, WA; and Catherine Perham from Newport, NH.

Thanks to all of you who support BRMA with your renewal dues and additional charitable contributions.

If you have friends or acquaintances who you think may be interested in BRMA membership, we encourage you to forward a copy of the [MODERATOR](#) to them and suggest that they send in a membership application using the FORM included below!

### 2024 BRMA MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW DUE:

To date in membership year 2024, 58 BRMA members have submitted their 2024 membership



dues. This number includes 25 individual LIFE members, and 1 Organization member.

If you have not yet submitted your membership dues for 2024, the information to do so is provided below.

To send in your renewal, use the FORM below to: Hard Copy—Clip and Send In, E-Copy—Print, Clip and Send-In.



## 2024 Renewal and New Member Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (h): (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell): (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print legibly)

- Renewal       New
- Individual (\$20)    or     Senior (age 60+ - \$10)    or     Student (\$10)    or     Life Member (one time — \$250)  
*(Individual Members Only)*
- Society/Group (\$25) Name of Voting Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional tax deductible contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Note: both Dues and Cash Contributions are Tax Deductable. (Tax ID # 94-3142387)**

**No goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution**

**If your total enclosed contribution is \$50 or less, print a copy of this application for your records. Over \$50 will be separately receipted.**

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please make check out to BRMA)

Thank you; please mail this application with payment to:

**B Reactor Museum Association**  
**PO Box 1531**  
**Richland, WA 99352**

## From The NPS— Ranger Updates

by **Becky Burghart, MPHA Hanford Site Manager**

I hope each of you are enjoying the wonderful sunny days of summer! We have a busy summer schedule with ranger programs from Pop-Up Playdays with the City of Richland Parks and Recreation to Junior Ranger Park Explorers programs in collaboration with the REACH Museum. We are also offering two different guided walks this summer: Not So Secret City on August 24 and Life in Richland walking tour. This is a new program we started in May. You can attend the Life in Richland program on Saturday, July 27 or Wednesday, August 7.

On August 9 we will host our annual Lights for Peace at 8:00 pm at the Fingernail Stage in Howard Amon Park in Richland. The program features music from the Mid-Columbia Mastersingers, a guest speaker, and an opportunity to ring a peace bell. We also display luminarias with messages of peace from the public along a path that participants are encouraged to walk for a quiet, contemplative experience. We are hosting three Messages of Peace programs: July 18 from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm at the Richland Public Library; July 26 from 12:00 – 4:00 pm at the Richland Community Center; and August 3 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at the REACH Museum. You are invited to stop by any of these events and write or draw a message of peace on the bags that we will use at the August 9<sup>th</sup> event. You are also invited to attend our Lights for Peace event.

We are excited to have two temporary staff working with us this summer. Drew Gamboa is our Latino Outreach Intern who is focusing on developing relationships with our local Latino community and learning more about the role of Latinos in the Manhattan Project at Hanford. Here is more about Drew: I am currently a graduate student at Washington State University and

study the history of Mexican Americans or the Chicana/o community in the Pacific Northwest. Along with growing up in the Tri-Cities (Kennewick), Hanford and Umatilla have been a source for one side of my family to move from being migratory farmworkers to settling into the region. I am excited to get the chance to meet people that share their time to the Manhattan Project National Historical Park and to support community engagement with Latinx communities of the Columbia Basin.

Nicholas Scarborough from Colorado National Monument will be working with the park on a 120-day detail focused on updating the website and working on several design projects for Los Alamos. He is working remotely from his home in Colorado. Here is a bit more about Nicholas: My career path has been working in the outdoors with school-age learners. I've moved for seasonal educator work between Tennessee, Indiana, Oregon, Wyoming, and finally settled in Colorado just over eight years ago. I earned my Masters of Science Education in 2020 and have been enjoying putting my studies and experience to use as the school programs coordinator for Colorado National Monument. My passions are equity and inclusion in experiential education, and digital accessibility when it comes to the online world. I'm excited and grateful for the opportunity to learn and develop skills as I assist Manhattan Project NHP with digital assets this summer!

We hope to see you at some of our summer events. Follow us on Facebook, X, and Instagram to keep up to date on park events.

Until next time, Becky

### QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Liza Eschbach, BRMA Treasurer

	4/1/2024 4/30/2024	5/1/2024 5/31/2024	6/1/2024 6/25/2024	
<b>Category</b>				
<b>INFLOW</b>				
2024 Donations	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 15.00	
2024 Dues	\$ 40.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 120.00	
Souvenir Sales	\$2,844.62	\$ 0.00	\$3,070.07	
<b>Month Total Inflow</b>	<b>\$2,984.62</b>	<b>\$ 10.00</b>	<b>\$3,205.07</b>	<b>Quarter Total \$6,199.69</b>
<b>OUTFLOW</b>				
BRMA Business Expenses	\$ 427.53	\$ 291.10	\$ 0.00	
Souvenir Supplies	\$2,812.64	\$1,459.32	\$ 664.12	
<b>Month Total Outflow</b>	<b>\$3,240.17</b>	<b>\$1,750.42</b>	<b>\$ 664.12</b>	<b>Quarter Total \$5,654.71</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>Quarter Net</b>			
<b>Month Net</b>	<b>-\$255.55</b>	<b>-\$1,740.42</b>	<b>\$2,540.95</b>	<b>\$ 544.98</b>

## The Secret

*Something was going on in a remote corner of Washington State.  
Federal investigators were determined to discover what it was.*

By C. Mark Smith, BRMA Reporter

***Editors Note: The following article, “The Secret,” will be published in three parts, Part 1 in this issue, and Parts 2&3 in the Fall 2024 and the Winter 2025 Moderators, respectively***

The potential for splitting the atom to create unknown amounts of energy had been discovered by European scientists in the years leading up to World War II. Before the start of the war in September 1939, a number of these scientists, many of them Jewish, fled to England and the United States to escape antisemitism in Europe. They carried with them an overriding fear that Nazi Germany would develop an atomic bomb.

Among those who came, were the already renowned German physicist Albert Einstein and three Hungarian counterparts, Leo Szilard, Eugene Wigner, and Edward Teller. Acting on their fears, they drafted a letter, signed by Einstein and addressed to President Franklin Roosevelt, warning of the potential of atomic bombs and urging the United States—not yet a combatant in the war—to develop the technology before the Nazis. The letter was delivered by Alexander Sachs, a financier, former New Deal administrator, and one of the seemingly endless numbers of unofficial advisors to the President.

Sachs met with Roosevelt in the late afternoon of October 11, 1939. Rather than reading Einstein’s letter, Sachs delivered a long verbal presentation he had prepared. The President, weary after a long day, told Sachs that he found the information interesting, but premature at that point.

Sachs decided to call upon his long friendship with the president to invite himself to breakfast the next morning. This time, he recounted the story of how the American inventor, Robert Fulton, had been rebuffed by Napoleon after offering to build a fleet of steamships that would enable the emperor to invade England. Napoleon had simply been unable to envision ships without sails.

After hearing the story and Sachs’s concluding argument, Roosevelt remained silent for a few minutes and then summed up the meeting. “Alex, what you are after is to see that the Nazi’s don’t blow us up?”

“Precisely,” Sachs replied.

Roosevelt called for his military aide, General Edwin “Pa” Watson and, handing him Einstein’s letter, said, “Pa, this demands action.”<sup>1</sup> The president’s decision set in motion a secret two-billion-dollar program to develop the atomic bomb and another three-billion-dollar program to develop and produce the B-29 bomber to deliver it. It was a decision that would change the world.

**Watson immediately created a small advisory committee** to study the current state of uranium research that included the émigré physicists who had been involved in the Einstein letter. It would become known as the “Uranium Committee” and met for the first time on October 21, 1939, only ten days after Sachs’ visit to the White House. They authorized \$6,000 to purchase uranium and graphite for various experiments but did not pursue the development of a bomb.

That all changed in May 1940, when Germany invaded France, Belgium, and the Netherlands. With a new sense of urgency, Roosevelt replaced the Uranium Committee with a National Defense Research Committee (NDRC) which explored all types of military research, including radar, synthetic materials, and various methods for separating the atom.

In June 1941, Germany attacked Russia, providing even more impetus for increasing and better organizing the American nuclear effort. On June 28, Roosevelt issued an executive order that folded the NDRC into the newly-created Office of Scientific Research and Development (OSRD), and providing it with almost unlimited funding and other resources. The former Uranium Committee became the Uranium Section of the OSRD and was soon renamed the S-1 Section for security purposes.

At the same time, nuclear research was being conducted in England, and by July 1941, it was discovered that it would take much less Uranium-235

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## “The Secret”

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to set off a powerful chain reaction than had been previously believed. Their discovery resulted in the creation of the British MAUD Committee—named for one of the physicist’s former housekeepers—to oversee the British nuclear program.

In August, British physicist and MAUD Committee member Mark Oliphant was in the United States as part of a mission to share his country’s military research with their American allies. Oliphant was surprised to learn that the Americans were generally unaware of the latest findings by the MAUD Committee. While visiting United States nuclear research facilities, he took it upon himself to brief members of the S-1 Section.

On October 9, Vice President Henry Wallace was informed of the British findings and of S-1’s estimates of the cost and time it would take to develop an American bomb. He obtained President Roosevelt’s permission to explore the cost of building the necessary facilities, but not to begin construction without the president’s authorization.

From there, events escalated quickly. By November 27, American scientists had confirmed the central findings of the MAUD report and Roosevelt was told that, “If all possible effort is spent, one might . . . expect fission bombs in significant quantity within three or four years.”<sup>2</sup>

On December 6, 1941, the S-1 Committee met to plan the development and design of an atomic bomb. The next day, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, and Germany declared war on the United States four days later. America was now at war. An even greater sense of urgency now drove the government’s efforts. On January 19, 1942, Roosevelt authorized the development of the atomic bomb in a cryptic handwritten note to Vannevar Bush, the chairman of OSRD, that said, “O.K. – Returned – I think you had best keep this in your own safe”.

Research was already underway on three discreet methods for separating natural uranium to obtain U-235; electromagnetic separation, gaseous diffusion, and thermal diffusion. Work was also being conducted on two types of nuclear reactors to produce plutonium; heavy water and graphite moderation. Since the scientists did not know the best way to produce a bomb—and the United States could not afford to choose the wrong one.

Cost was no object, but finding the money to proceed was a major concern. To avoid congressional scrutiny, it was decided to bury the enormous cost of the program in the Corps of

Engineers budget and in another line-item intended to speed the flow of munitions to Europe. The subject was obviously on Roosevelt’s mind when, four days later, he sent another memo to Bush asking, “Do you have the money yet?”

The problem was, how were they going to pay for immense cost of the project while keeping it a secret from Congress? That question was obviously on Roosevelt’s mind. Four days after his handwritten note to Vannevar Bush, the chairman of OSRD, approving the program, he sent another memo asking, “Do you have the money yet?”<sup>3</sup>

On August 13, 1942, the **Manhattan District of the Army Corps of Engineers** was created to oversee the effort to develop and build an atomic bomb. On September 17, a portly, hard-driving, no-nonsense engineer, Brigadier General Leslie R. Groves, was named to lead what became known as the Manhattan Project. Groves had just completed construction of the Pentagon in Washington, DC—the largest building in the world at the time—plus scores of internment camps in the West to house Japanese-Americans.

Groves believed in leading from the front. He insisted on a lean organization that allowed him to make fast, positive decisions. “Large staffs lead to inaction and delay,” he said.<sup>4</sup> His deputy, Col. Kenneth Nichols, remembered him as,

“. . . the biggest sonovabitch I’ve ever met in my life, but also one of the most capable individuals. He had an ego second to none, he had tireless energy . . . He had absolute confidence in his decision, and he was absolutely ruthless in how he approached a problem to get it done. But that was the beauty of working for him.”<sup>5</sup>

Groves immediately set about his job with relentless and all-consuming drive to accomplish the mission in total secrecy. The day after he took charge of the Manhattan Project, he inspected a 56,000-acre site near Oak Ridge in the semi-wilderness of East Tennessee. It would become the site for the electromagnetic separation plant, an immense gaseous diffusion plant, the pilot plutonium production reactor and related facilities.

On November 25, 1942, he approved the purchase of 54,000-acres in the foothills of the remote Sangre de Cristo Mountains near Los Alamos, New Mexico, as the site of a new top-secret laboratory that

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would consolidate, as much as possible, all atomic research in one location. To manage the laboratory, Groves selected 38-year-old J. Robert Oppenheimer, a controversial theoretical physicist with former family ties to the Communist Party, principally for his ability to bridge the interpersonal divide between the overbearing Groves and the touchy scientists who were working at Los Alamos.

Groves had initially wanted to build the plutonium production reactors at Oak Ridge, but the dangers of an accidental release of radiation demanded that they be built in an isolated location. Overcoming their strenuous objections, Groves convinced the chemical giant DuPont to be the lead contractor for the plutonium facilities.

Groves then selected 34-year-old Colonel Franklin T. “Fritz” Matthias, his former deputy manager of construction at the Army Corps of Engineers, to look for a site in the west. By mid-December 1942, Matthias had met with the atomic scientists and DuPont’s engineers to establish the site criteria.

Matthias and two DuPont engineers looked at eleven sites in four states and found what they were looking for on December 22, when they flew, drove, and walked over parts of a 670-square mile swath of mostly flat semi-desert shrub steppe located at the great horn of the Columbia River in southeastern Washington State. Matthias was already familiar with the area after approving the location of a massive military supply depot in nearby Pasco. Groves confirmed their decision when he visited the site on January 16, 1943

The site was huge—almost half the size of the state of Rhode Island—and sparsely populated, with about 1,500 people living on scattered farms and ranches or in three tiny towns, Hanford, White Bluffs, and Richland. Several hundred of the residents were Native Americans, and multiple tribes camped on the site during the winter to hunt, fish, and gather natural foods and medicines.

Almost all the property was sagebrush rangeland, home to almost 20,000 sheep during the winter and spring. About ten percent of the site was farmland, most of it under irrigation but not all under cultivation. About one percent was in the three small towns. About a third of the site was already publicly owned. About 225,000 acres was privately owned, including several irrigation districts.<sup>6</sup>

**Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson** authorized the purchase of more than 400,000 acres on February 9, 1943 and the army’s land acquisition specialists arrived immediately thereafter. They were soon joined by a large number of real estate appraisers hired by Matthias. The first tract of land was purchased on March 10. By the end of 1943, the government had acquired nearly 430,000 of the almost 500,000 acres for approximately \$5.1 million. DuPont’s plan called for dividing the site into five areas, based on how the land would be used and the very tight construction schedule. The highest priority was given to Area A, a tract about 14 miles in diameter along the Columbia River where the main production facilities would be built.

(To be continued in Fall 2024 Moderator)

### End Notes Citations - Part 1

<sup>1</sup>Richard Rhodes, *The Making of the Atomic Bomb*, (New York, Simon & Schuster, 1986) 314.

<sup>2</sup>Hill Williams, *Made in Hanford: The Bomb that Changed the World*, (Pullman, WA: Washington State University Press, 2011). 61.

<sup>3</sup>Catie Edmondson, “Secret Wrapped in a Secret: A Bomb’s Funding,” *New York Times*, January 18, 2023, Section A, Page 1.

<sup>4</sup>Leslie R. Groves, *Now It Can Be Told: The Story of the Manhattan Project*, (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1962). 28.

<sup>5</sup>Rhodes. 426.

<sup>6</sup>Vincent C. Jones, *Manhattan, the Army and the Atomic Bomb*, (Washington, DC, Center for Military History, United States Army, 1985). 331-332

**End of “The Secret” - Part 1**  
**Part 2 will be continued in the Fall 2024 Moderator**



## ECA Report by Dave Marsh, BRMA President

As the President of BRMA, I was privileged to attend the Energy Communities Alliance in May in Kennewick. The following is a summary of that conference.

This May, the Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) hosted over 250 people at the ECA Forum: Building Nuclear Partnerships and Projects, held in the Tri-Cities, Washington. This Forum brought together federal, state, tribal and local governments, economic development professionals, developers, utilities, state and federal regulators, industry, and academia to identify opportunities, challenges and to build the partnerships necessary for new, safe nuclear development. This Forum is the third in an ongoing series and part of ECA's New Nuclear Initiative to identify and provide opportunities for nuclear development, define the role of local governments in the development projects and to provide opportunities for local leaders to collaborate with industry, DOE and their peers in existing and potential future nuclear communities.

All of the leading advanced nuclear technology and project developers participated in the Forum providing plans and the outlook for companies including Aalo Atomics, Curio, Deep Isolation, Energy Northwest, Framatome, Holtec, Oklo, Terrestrial Power, Westinghouse, X-energy, and Zeno Power. They were joined by Mayors from nuclear communities across the globe, including Mayor Gerry of West Richland, Mayor Rebecca Casper of Idaho Falls, Mayor Bill Thek of Kemmerer, Wyoming, and Mayor Gerben Dijksterhuis of Borsele, Netherlands.

The forum was flush with addresses from state and federal officials, including Senator Maria Cantwell, Congressman Newhouse, Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodger, Senator Danny Carrol of Kentucky, and Representative Stephanie Barnard of Washington. These individuals, and many more, represent dozens of communities from across the country who came together to consider building local and state support, enabling legislation, opportunities for industrial applications, financing and fuel supply challenges.

ECA's Forum focused on key issues:

- What opportunities exist for nuclear development?
- What do communities need to know to support and attract new nuclear development/missions?
- How can communities support industry, national laboratories, state, and federal governments and how should they communicate about local resources and development opportunities?
- What hurdles and challenges will host communities in the US and abroad face - along with industry, developers - and who can we work with to overcome them?

Which communities are interested in and pursuing hosting nuclear facilities?

The Forum featured discussion-based panels addressing all aspects of a nuclear project: from the front-end to the back end of the fuel cycle. Notable speakers, included DOE's Acting Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, Dr. Mike Goff, two former DOE Assistant Secretaries for Nuclear Energy, Dr. Monica Regalbuto, and Ed McGuinness, and Ray Furstenu Director, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Highlights of the sessions included:

1. Spreading the Message concerning education and promotion of nuclear energy .
2. Building State support for Nuclear Development
3. Rebuilding the nuclear supply chain
4. Reusing Energy Sites for Nuclear Development such as retired coal and gas generator sites
5. Addressing Nuclear Waste – Old and New
6. Engagement Across Agencies, Labs and Communiities.

Featured Speakers:

- The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm, Secretary of U.S. Department of Energy
- Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (TN-03), Chairman, House Appropriations Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
- Candice Robertson, Senior Advisor, DOE-EM
- Jeff Avery, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, DOE-EM
- Greg Sosson, Associate Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Field Operations, DOE-EM
- Kristen Ellis, Associate Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regulatory and Policy Affairs, DOE-EM
- Dae Chung, Associate Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Corporate Services, DOE-EM
- James McConnell, Associate Principal Deputy Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration
- Brent Gerry, Mayor, City of West Richland, WA; Chair, ECA and
- Rebecca Casper, Mayor, City of Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Vice-Chair, ECA.

I am grateful to represent BRMA in this committee as well as the Visit Tri-Cities Committee and the Tri-Cities National Park Committee. Any questions may be directed to me as always and if you wish to know more about ECA, the link to their website is: <https://www.energyca.org/>

## Tri-Cities National Park Committee By Dave Marsh, BRMA President

As President of this organization, I have the privilege to be a member of the Tri-Cities National Park Committee established in 2016 to provide assistance to the Department of Energy and the National Park Service in managing the local leg of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park (MAPR). At a recent meeting hosted by the REACH museum, the Park

Committee met to discuss next steps in providing support to the managing agencies. Wendy Berhman and Becky Burghart of the NPS, shared information relative to the operations of the NPS and how that affects the MAPR Park and funding. There was also considerable discussion about the use of existing donations provided for the Hanford portion of the Park and how that might be used in the near future to enhance visitor experiences. There was also quite a bit of discussion about

## BRMA Members as Docents by Dave Marsh, BRMA Reporter

When BRMA wrote the 2023 Annual report there was an article thanking Colleen French our DOE-RL representative for the family tour she provided to BRMA members and family last fall. As I finished the article and completed the publication of the Annual Report it occurred to me that there is another group of individuals that need to be honored for their support of BRMA but also for their dedication to the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. These individuals are responsible for sharing the story of B Reactor and the Pre-Manhattan sites and people which make-up the Pre-Manhattan Historical Park Tour begun in 2015. I want to extend a personal and grateful THANK YOU to the following BRMA members who work so hard to promote the Park but also to provide such a great experience for the guests of the Park on the 2 tours that are provided to the Public.

Terri Andre	B Reactor Tours & Pre-Manhattan Tours
Rick Bond	B Reactor Tours & Pre-Manhattan Tours
Gene Carbaugh	B Reactor Tours & Pre-Manhattan Tours
Bruce Carlisle	B Reactor Tours
Joe Escamillo	B Reactor Tours & Pre-Manhattan Tours
Marty Zizzi	B Reactor Tours & Pre-Manhattan Tours
Liza Eschbach	B Reactor Tours
Steve Faulk	B Reactor Tours & Pre-Manhattan Tours
Robert Franklin	B Reactor Tours & Pre-Manhattan Tours

Mark Jensen	B Reactor Tours
Rick Raymond	B Reactor Tours
Don Sorenson	B Reactor Tours (Rookie year as a Docent)
Ben Johnson	B Reactor Tours (Ben “Retired” in 2024 from performing tours)
Ron Kwiss	B Reactor Tours & Pre-Manhattan Tours (Ron “Retired” in 2024 from performing tours)
Dave Marsh	B Reactor Tours & Pre-Manhattan Tours

In the Annual Report, I included a special Thank you to the Lucas staff and the tour coordinators (Anne and Julie), but I did not recognize both Kara and Stevie who are the face of the Park to the visitors at the Visitor Center. They are special ladies and the ones who have the most direct interface with our guests, so don’t forget to specifically thank them for their support as well the next time you see them. A special thank you to Kalina Hildebrandt of the NPS who organizes and conducts much of the public interactions along with Becky Burghardt.

Without each of these individuals, the Docents that are BRMA Members and the other 10 non BRMA Member Docents, the tour program could not be provided to the public. We look forward to continued growth of the BRMA membership and continued renewal of the Docent pool as many of our existing Docents retire from performing tours. Fortunately, the B Reactor Roof repair contract has not been established as of the end of June, so tours will continue at least through the end of October.

### From The Control Room (continued from Page 1)

during our visit to Arizona in April, my wife Ellen and I were able to not only visit Los Alamos but meet up with friends Leslie Linke and Jonathan Creel and meet the NPS Los Alamos Ranger Tom Smith and also meet the Operations Manager for the Bradbury Museum, Jennifer Olsen. Leslie is a volunteer for the Los Alamos History Museum and conducted a walking tour of the original Los Alamos residences and meeting places in the heart of the city to include a visit to the Oppenheimer residence which was used in the Oppenheimer movie. Jonathan Creel worked with BRMA and the NPS to collect the video footage for the B Reactor and T Plant virtual tour videos which are now published on the NPS Manhattan Project website. Jonathan provided a behind the fence tour for me to visit a couple of the retired facilities which have been designated as part of the

National Park. Thanks to Jonathan for that special tour and the time to visit with him as well. I especially enjoyed our time with Leslie and Tom and Jennifer. I look forward to continued collaboration with the other two legs of the MAPR Park.

I have to brag a bit about Hanford after completing my visit to the other two NPS Sites that comprise the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. When Dick Groves was last here at Hanford, he made the statement that the B Reactor IS the “Crown Jewel” of the Manhattan Project National Park. I may be a bit prejudiced about this but I truly would have to agree. To be able to walk into the Reactor building as it looked nearly 80 years ago is SPECTACULAR!

Until next time, Dave



## From Our Gift Shop By Rick Bond, BRMA Products and Sales

Because we were not supposed to have a tour season this year, I decided not to restock many of the gift shop items that we were getting low on. Also decided not to develop some new items to carry in the shop. When they announced that we were going to be open for at least three months, and now it has been extended to four months and possibly more, I had to make a concerted effort to restock our inventories. Since people were aware that the tours were only going to run for a few months this year, they were pretty much fully booked right from the start of the season. Under normal conditions the first few months of tours are generally booked to much less than capacity. Because the visitor numbers were really good right from the start, the sales at the gift shop started off strong and kept on building. April, May, and June sales were all very strong.

Many local people still stop in at the Visitor’s Center (located at 2000 Logston Boulevard) even if they are not signed up for the B Reactor tour. The wonderful staff at the Visitor’s Center (particularly Anne, Julie, and Stevie) is very good about directing the visitors to our gift shop which is located in Xenophile Bibliopole & Armorer, Chronopolis (Xenophile Books for short) about two blocks away from the Visitor’s Center at 2240 Robertson Drive. Stop by and say hello to Steve and/or Brian even if you’re not going on a MAPR tour. I think you will be glad you did when you see the amazing collection of items they carry, not just books by any means.

Bill Turner had made about 10 B Reactor clocks for us over the past couple of years. The clocks are made with actual graphite and process tubes from one of the Hanford reactors (may be B Reactor but not sure). We have sold out all the clocks and Bill has recently made several more – all with a little different design and with B Reactor pins or coins imbedded into the base. Bill has been kind enough to make the clocks for BRMA almost at cost so if you have any woodworking jobs or repairs that need to be made, give Bill a call at Bill Turner Woodworks – (817) 550-3931.

BRMA continues to have great support from Gus at The Octopus’ Garden which is located in Uptown Richland (1327 George Washington Way). Some of our products are also sold at the Tri-City Visitor’s Center and The Reach Museum so please support these locations as well.

Last but not least I want to thank my gift shop partner in crime, Jan Jones, for doing a wonderful job with the jewelry we sell in the gift shop, but also always keeping the little shop area look nice and helping with ideas for new products.

Please always remember that 100% of the profits from our gift shop go toward supporting our local unit (Hanford B Reactor) of MAPR. The gift shop proceeds are used to fund interpretative projects at the reactor and many other reactor related projects.

### Tri-Cities National Park Committee (continued from Page 7)

establishment of a “Friends Of The Park” group and how that might be organized and the benefit of such a group to the MAPR Park here at Hanford. The Park committee agreed to continue discussions regarding the ultimate use of the donations with several options discussed. More to follow on this topic as the Park Committee moves forward. I should be able to report on what project has been selected for the use of the donations collected over the past 8-9 years as we move forward.



### The Octopus’ Garden

“We have fun stuff!”

Books, incense, toys, Gnomes, socks, candles, buttons,  
bobble-heads, lunch boxes, t-shirts, games, cards  
funky home décor, keychains, rubber chickens,  
posters, and oh, so much more.

**1327 George Washington Way  
Uptown Richland  
509-946-0077**

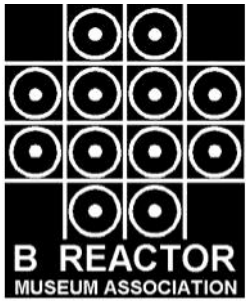
### Xenophile Bibliopole & Armorer Chronopolis

So Much More Than A Used Book Store

Collectible Science Fiction, Movie Posters, Movie  
Memorabilia, Retro Futuristic Toys, Games and Action  
Figures. We also boast a Mini Museum dedicated to  
Hanford and the Manhattan Project.

**2240 Robertson Dr, Rich.  
(Horn Rapids Indust. Pk)  
509-375-7505**





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